



Maryland Department of General Services

NEWS RELEASE

Martin O'Malley, Governor

Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

Alvin C. Collins, Secretary

LT. GOVERNOR BROWN, DGS SECRETARY COLLINS TO VISIT HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Tour of Career Program Building part of Capital For A Day Program

HAGERSTOWN, MD (May 6, 2008) – As part of the *Capital For A Day* this Thursday in Hagerstown, Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown and Maryland Department of General Services (DGS) Secretary Alvin C. Collins will tour Hagerstown Community College's (HCC) Career Programs Building which is being renovated. DGS, under Secretary Collins' leadership, provides support to the college through the State's Community College Construction Grant Program.

"As we improve our community college campuses, we strengthen a critical link to opportunity," said Lt. Governor Brown. "An educated, skilled work force will attract and create new jobs, and improve the quality of life for every Marylander."

When complete, the renovation will convert the existing building into a new comprehensive classroom, lab and office facility. The project includes landscaping, site improvements and relocation of Loop Road and a 150 space parking lot. The tour will take place on the lower level where HCC's nursing and allied health programs are located. The upper level, where a conference center will be located, is not complete.

"This \$17.1 million renovation project is one example of Governor O'Malley's commitment to providing a first-class learning environment at every level of education," said Secretary Collins. "So far in FY 2008, community colleges across the State have received almost \$47 million for capital improvements."

HCC offers more than 100 programs of study for transfer to a four-year institution or for immediate career preparation.

"The Career Programs Building is the largest instructional space on the HCC campus," said Guy Altieri, HCC president. "It's home to programs of study that are critical to workforce development and the education of future nurses and allied health care workers in our community. We are very appreciative of Governor O'Malley, the State legislature, and the Washington County Commissioners for their financial support for both the capital and operating funds needed to help educate local citizens to hold jobs that pay excellent salaries and are in high demand locally."

Established in 1946, HCC was the first community college to open its doors in the state of Maryland. The College has grown to a current credit enrollment of more than 5,000 students and a non-credit enrollment of more than 9,000.

DGS provides administrative and technical support for the State's Community College Construction Grant Program. In FY 2008, the General Assembly approved State grant funding in the amount of \$56.4 million for 13 Community College Construction Program projects. So far in FY 2008, the Community College Construction Grant Program has allocated grant funds for 15 projects for 13 community colleges in 19 counties, with a total estimated construction value of \$203 million.

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